

Vicente Yáñez Pinzón Encyclopedia Article

Vicente Yáñez Pinzón

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Vicente Yáñez Pinzón

c. 1460-c. 1523

Spanish mariner who commanded the *Niña* during the first New World voyage of Christopher Columbus (1451-1506), and later explored the coast of South and Central America. In 1499 Vicente, younger brother of Martín Alonso Pinzón (c. 1441-1493), discovered a Brazilian cape that he named Santa María de la Consolación. He also explored the region around the Amazon estuary and what is now northeastern Venezuela, and took part in three more voyages to the New World. On the last one, he sailed along the coast of Central America with Juan Díaz de Solís (1470?-1516) before the two had a falling-out and returned to Spain in 1509.